



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Southeast Regional Office  
9721 Executive Center Drive North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33702  
(727) 570-5312; Fax 570-5517

NOV 29 2000

F/SER3:KRW

To all participants in the Southeast U.S. Atlantic shark gillnet fishery:

This notice serves as a reminder of your obligation to contact the National Marine Fisheries Service Southeast Regional Office (SER) to arrange for an observer if you plan to fish for shark anywhere between 32°00' N. latitude (near Savannah, GA) and 27°51' N. latitude (near West Palm Beach, FL) between November 15 - March 31 of each year. The SER must be contacted within 48 hours prior to each trip scheduled between now and March 31, 2001. This requirement is necessary in order to implement the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan (ALWTRP), as required by the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

As a reminder, details of the Take Reduction Plan's specific requirements for the shark gillnet fishery are outlined below:

- **Gear Marking:** Gear must be permanently marked in blue and green (e.g. with spray paint, colored line spliced or woven in, etc.). The two color marks must be at least 4 inches (10.2 cm) long, and placed within 6 inches (15.2 cm) of one another. Such marks must be clearly visible when gear is hauled or removed from the water. All buoy lines must be marked within 2 ft. (0.6 m) of the top of the buoy line and midway along the length of the buoy line. In addition, each net panel must be marked along both the float line and the lead line at least once every 100 yards (92.4 m).

**Note:** Per take reduction team (TRT) negotiations in the northeast subgroup (see ALWTRT meeting summary enclosed), these gear marking restrictions may be simplified in the future to require only the blue marks. Gear marked with both green and blue would still meet the new marking criteria. We will keep you posted if/when these changes to the ALWTRP regulations are officially proposed.

- **Southeast US (SEUS) Restricted Area:** The area from 32°00' N. lat. south to 27°51' lat. (near Sebastian Inlet, FL), extending from the shore eastward to 80°00' W. Long., is closed annually to fishing with drift, entangling or gill net gear from November 15 - March 31. Elimination of the current exception for strikenets (outlined below) was proposed during ALWTRT Southeast Subgroup deliberations (see enclosed meeting summary). This recommendation may be incorporated into a future proposed rule to modify the existing ALWTRP. Again, we will notify you of any officially proposed changes to the current ALWTRP regulations.

OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7-90)

**FAX TRANSMITTAL**

# of pages ►

To <u>J. Carlson</u>	From <u>Kathy</u>
Dept./Agency	Phone #
Fax #	Fax #



• **SEUS Observer Area:** The SEUS Observer Area includes the SEUS restricted area and the area extending immediately south to 26°46.05' N. lat. (near West Palm Beach, FL) and eastward from shore out to 5 nm. From November 15 - March 31 each year, no person may fish with drift, entangling or gill net gear in this area without arranging for an observer by contacting the SER in St. Petersburg at least 48 hours prior to making the trip.

**Note:** Per consensus of the ALWTRT Southeast subgroup (see meeting notes, enclosed), NMFS is considering VMS requirements as a future alternative to observers. You will be notified if this alternative is published as a proposed rule to modify existing regulations. For more information, contact Jill Stevenson of the NMFS Highly Migratory Species Division at 727/570-5447.

• **Special Provision for Strike Netting:** Fishing with strikenets (i.e., run-around gillnets) is exempt from the closure described above provided:

- ✓ A NMFS observer is onboard at all times
- ✓ No nets may be set at night or when visibility is less than 500 yards (460m)
- ✓ Each set must be made under supervision of a spotter plane
- ✓ No net may be set within 3 nm of a right, humpback or fin whale
- ✓ If a right, humpback or fin whale moves within 3 nm of set gear, the gear must be immediately removed from the water.

Please contact Kathy Wang of this office at the telephone number listed on the letterhead above if you have any questions regarding these requirements, or call Ms. Teletha Griffin at the same number to schedule observer coverage.

Note that outside the November 15–March 31 time period, you are still obligated to contact the NMFS Southeast Fishery Science Center to arrange for observers as required by the Atlantic Shark Fishery regulations.

Thank you very much for your attention to and cooperation with these requirements.

Sincerely,

*Charles A. Oravetz*

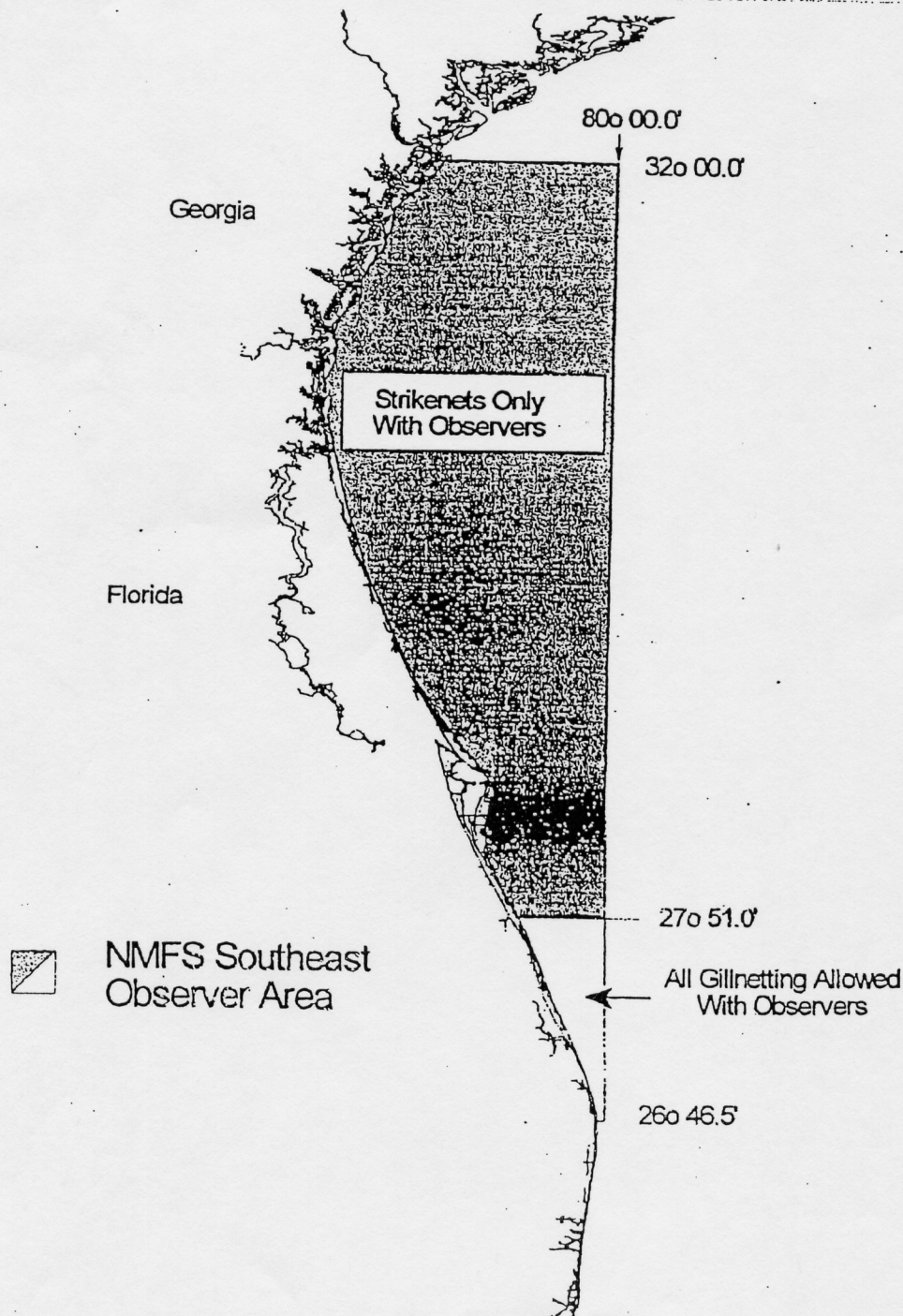
Charles A. Oravetz  
Assistant Regional Administrator  
for Protected Resources

Enclosures



cc: F/SEC - S. Swartz, D. Lee, J. Carlson  
F/EN3 - G. Proulx, P. Raymond, C. Oravetz  
F/SF - C. Rogers, J. Stevenson  
F/PR3 - T. Conant, D. Brewer  
F/PR2 - G. Silber, T. Eagle, P. Lawson

File: 1501-01h.4.b.



November 15 to March 31 Gillnetting Restrictions

**DATA COLLECTION FOR SHARK GILLNET OBSERVER PROGRAM  
NOAA FISHERIES PANAMA CITY LABORATORY**

**HAUL LOG**

**Page \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_:** Record what page the HAUL LOG is in the total number of pages for the trip. Fill out a HAUL LOG for each OBS/TRIP#-SET/HAUL (e.g., GN\_XXX HAUL 01, GN\_XXX HAUL 02, etc.).

**OBS/TRIP#:** Record three-character observer/trip identifier assigned to you for this deployment (GN\_###). Start with your number and continue sequentially. It must be the same for all logs and field notes associated with a single trip. A trip is defined as a departure from dock, gear set and retrieved, and a return to the dock.

**VESSEL NAME:** Record the name of the vessel you are deployed on.

**VESSEL NUMBER:** Record the six digit US Coast Guard Documentation number. If the vessel does not have a Coast Guard number record the state registration number.

**LANDING DATE/HAUL DATE:** Record the month, day, and year when the vessel arrived back in port.

**INCIDENTAL TAKE:** Indicate (yes or no) whether a marine mammal, sea bird or sea turtle was caught in this haul.

**SET/HAUL #:** Record the haul number. A haul is each time a net is set and hauled back or set and hauled back in sections. Each section would be a consecutive haul number. Start with 001 and number sequentially. False strikes are 000.

**TARGET SPECIES:** Record species targeted by the vessel during a particular trip. Use three letter species code from the SPECIES CODE LIST.

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***GEAR CHARACTERISTICS***

***Fill in all blanks for each haul.***

***Do not fill this section in for false strikes.***

**GEAR CODE:** Record 470 for drift gillnet, 475 for strike gillnet, and 480 for sink gillnet.

**NET LENGTH:** Record net length in whole feet.

**NET DEPTH:** Record net depth in whole feet.

**MESH SIZE:** Record stretched mesh size ranges (minimum, **MIN** and maximum, **MAX**) in inches.

**PRINCIPAL MESH SIZE:** If net is made of multiple meshes, record mesh size that predominates the net.

**MULTI/MONO:** Record if gear is multifilament or monofilament (Multi or Mono).

**MESH COLOR:** Record color of mesh.



**ANCHOR USED:** Record if an anchor was used (yes or no).

**HIGHFLYER/POLYBALL USED:** Record if a highflyer or polyball were used (yes or no).

**NUMBER OF FLOATS:** Record the number of floats on the entire gear.

**FLOAT DIAMETER:** Record float diameter in inches.

**DISTANCE BETWEEN FLOATS:** Record the distance between floats in feet.

**# OF MESH BETWEEN FLOATS:** Record the number of mesh between floats.

**TOTAL WEIGHT OF LEADLINE:** If lead is internal, record the total weight of the leadline in pounds.

**# LEADS:** If leads are external, record the total number of leads on the entire gear.

### ***ENVIRONMENTAL***

*Fill in all blanks for each haul, including false sets.*

**BOTTOM DEPTH:** Record in whole feet depths of set. Depth can be obtained from electronics equipment.

**BOTTOM TYPE:** Record the predominant bottom type.

**WIND DIRECTION:** Record the wind direction (e.g., SE).

**WIND SPEED:** Record the wind speed in knots. Enter the maximum observed, not a range.

**WAVE HEIGHT:** Record the wave height in feet. Enter the maximum observed, not a range.

### ***SET/HAUL TABLE***

*Fill in all blanks for each haul.*

*Do not fill this section in for false sets.*

**BEGIN/END:** Record date, time (using 24 hr clock in hundredths of hr-0000-23.92).

**BEGIN LATITUDE/LONGITUDE:** Record in whole degrees, minutes, and decimal seconds.

**BEGIN/END TEMPERATURE:** Record in whole degrees the surface water temperature.

**HAUL BEGIN/END:** Record date, time (using 24 hr clock in hundredths of hr – 00.00-23.92).

**HAUL BEGIN/END LATITUDE/LONGITUDE:** Record in whole degrees, minutes, and decimal seconds.

**BEGIN/END DURATION:** Record to hundredths of an hour the set duration (begin set-end set) and the haul duration (begin haul-end haul).

**NOTES:** Record any notes you have regarding the gear, environmental, and set/haul table. Write on the back if you need more room.

### **CATCH SUMMARY**

**Page \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_:** Record what page the CATCH SUMMARY is in the total number of pages for the trip. Fill out a CATCH SUMMARY for each OBS/TRIP#-SET/HAUL (e.g., GN\_/XXX HAUL 01, GN\_/XXX HAUL 02, etc.). Do not fill in a CATCH SUMMARY for false strikes.

**OBS/TRIP#:** Record three-character observer/trip identifier assigned to you for this deployment (GN\_/###). Start with your number and continue sequentially. It must be the same for all logs and field notes associated with a single trip. A trip is defined as a departure from dock, gear set and retrieved, and a return to the dock.

**SET/HAUL #:** Record the haul number. A haul is each time a net is set and hauled back or set and hauled back in sections. Each section would be a consecutive haul number. Start with 001 and number sequentially.

**SPECIES:** Record the scientific name for each species caught.

**SPECIES CODE:** Record the 4 digit TIP code for each species from the SPECIES CODE LIST.

**NUMBER KEPT:** Record the total number kept for each species caught.

**NUMBER DISCARDED LIVE:** Record the total number discarded alive for each species caught.

**NUMBER DISCARDED DEAD:** Record the total number discarded dead for each species caught.

**NOTES:** Record any notes you have regarding catch. Write on the back if you need more room.

***\*\*Do not enter weights. The weights will be calculated and entered by an observer coordinator\*\****

### **WEIGHT WORKSHEET**

**Page \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_:** Record what page the FIELD WORKSHEET is in the total number of pages for the trip. Fill out a FIELD WORKSHEET for each OBS/TRIP#-SET/HAUL. Do not fill in a FIELD WORKSHEET for false strikes.

**OBS/TRIP#:** Record three-character observer/trip identifier assigned to you for this deployment (GN\_/###). Start with your number and continue sequentially. It must be the same for all logs and field notes associated with a single trip. A trip is defined as a departure from the dock, gear set and retrieved, and a return to the dock.

**SET/HAUL #:** Record the haul number. A haul is each time a net is set and hauled back or set and hauled back in sections. Each section would be a consecutive haul number. Start with 001 and number sequentially.

### ***ESTIMATED FORK LENGTHS – SHARKS TABLE***

**SPECIES:** Record the 3 digit species abbreviation from the SPECIES CODE LIST.

**CODE:** Record the 4 digit TIP code for each species from the SPECIES CODE LIST.

**TOTAL # KEPT:** Record the total number kept for each species caught.

**TOTAL # DISCARD LIVE:** Record the total number discarded alive for each species caught.

**TOTAL # DISCARD DEAD:** Record the total number discarded dead.

Unless zeros, use the next line down to distinguish between numbers. See WEIGHT WORKSHEET  
EXAMPLE

**LENGTH BINS (000-030 to 210-240):** Record the number of each species in that length category.

### ***MEASURED LENGTHS – SHARKS ONLY TABLE***

**SPECIES:** Record the 3 digit species abbreviation from the SPECIES CODE LIST.

**CODE:** Record the 4 digit TIP code for each species from the SPECIES CODE LIST.

**FL (FORK LENGTH):** Record the measured fork length (in cm).

**SEX:** Record the sex of the animal (M = male, F = female).

### ***ESTIMATED FORK LENGTHS – NON-SHARKS TABLE***

Use same denotation as for SHARKS TABLE.

### **VMS LOG (JAN 1<sup>ST</sup>-MAR 31<sup>ST</sup>)**

**Page \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_:** Record what page the VMS LOG is in the total number of pages for the trip. Fill out a VMS LOG for each SET/HAUL, including false strikes.

**OBS/TRIP#:** Record three-character observer/trip identifier assigned to you for this deployment (GN\_###). Start with your number and continue sequentially. It must be the same for all logs and field notes associated with a single trip. A trip is defined as a departure from the dock, gear set and retrieved, and a return to the dock.

**SET/HAUL #:** Record the haul number. A haul is each time a net is set and hauled back or set and hauled back in sections. Each section would be a consecutive haul number. Start with 001 and number sequentially. False strikes are 000.

**VESSEL NAME:** Record the name of the vessel you are deployed on.

**VESSEL NUMBER:** Record the six digit US Coast Guard Documentation number. If the vessel does not have a Coast Guard number record the state registration.

**LANDING DATE:** Record the month, day, and year when the vessel arrived back in port.

**TIME:** Record time (using 24 hr clock in hundredths of hr-0000-23.92).



**VESSEL STATUS:** Vessel leaving Dock – record the time the vessel leaves the dock. Vessel Returning to port – record the time the vessel returns to port. Every hour, record what the vessel is doing (e.g., Setting, Hauling, Drifting, Checking Gear, Steaming, etc.).

**LATITUDE/LONGITUDE:** Record in whole degrees, minutes, and decimal seconds.

**\*\*SEE EXAMPLE OF DATA SHEETS ON FOLLOWING PAGES\*\***

**\*\*FOR OBS/TRIP# WITH MULTIPLE HAULS, ARRANGE DATA SHEETS: (1) HAUL LOG – Haul 01 (2) CATCH SUMMARY – Haul 01 (3) WEIGHT WORKSHEET – Haul 01 (4) VMS LOG – Haul 01 (5) HAUL LOG – Haul 02 (6) CATCH SUMMARY – Haul 02 ... ETC.\*\***

**\*\*CHECK IN WITH EITHER JOHN CARLSON 850-234-6541 EXT. 221 OR DANA BETHEA 850-234-6541 EXT 239 EVERY FRIDAY\*\***

Southeast Fisheries Science Center  
Shark Drift Gillnet Fishery Haul LogOBS/TRIP#: GNZ/001 VESSEL NAME: Miss JaneDoe VESSEL NUMBER: FL###LANDING DATE (mm/dd/yr): 01/15/2010 INCIDENTAL TAKE (yes/no): NOSET/HAUL: 01 TARGET SPECIES: SHX**GEAR CHARACTERISTICS**GEAR CODE: 475 NET LENGTH (ft): 4500 NET DEPTH (ft): 90'MESH SIZE (in): MIN 9" to MAX 9" PRINCIPAL MESH SIZE (in): 9"MULTI/MONO: Multi MESH COLOR: Green ANCHOR USED (yes/no): NoHIGHFLYER/POLYBALL USED (yes/no): Yes IF YES, NUMBER: 2IF YES, DROPLINE LENGTH: 12'NUMBER OF FLOATS: 900 FLOAT DIAMETER (in): 6"DISTANCE BETWEEN FLOATS (ft): 5' # OF MESH BETWEEN FLOATS: 10TOTAL WEIGHT OF LEADLINE (LB) 1125 # LEADS: 4500**ENVIRONMENTAL**BOTTOM DEPTH (ft): 53' BOTTOM TYPE: Sand WIND DIRECTION (°): 360WIND SPEED (kts): 10 WAVE HEIGHT (ft) : 5'**SET/HAUL TABLE**

SET/HAUL	DATE	TIME	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	TEMP	DURATION
SET BEGIN	1/15/2010	12.75	2722.598	8010.895	69	_____
SET END	1/15/2010	12.92	2722.658	8010.537	_____	0.17
HAUL BEGIN	1/15/2010	13.42	2722.270	8010.756	69	_____
HAUL END	1/15/2010	14.17	2721.830	8010.340	_____	0.75

NOTES:

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**Southeast Fisheries Science Center  
Shark Drift Gillnet Fishery Catch Log**

**CATCH SUMMARY****OBS/TRIP#:** GNZ/001 **SET/HAUL:** 01

SPECIES	SPEC. CODE	NUMBER KEPT	KEPT WEIGHT (KG)	NUMBER DISCARD LIVE	NUMBER DISCARD DEAD	DISCARD WEIGHT (KG)
Carcharhinus limbatus	3495	234		0	0	
Echeneidae	2865	0		0	1	

**NOTES:**

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**Southeast Fisheries Science Center  
Shark Drift Gillnet Fishery Weight Worksheet**

OBS/TRIP # \_\_\_\_\_ SET/HAUL # \_\_\_\_\_

**ESTIMATED FORK LENGTHS - SHARKS**

Species	Code	Total # Kept	Total # Discard Live	Total # Discard Dead	000-030	030-060	060-090	090-120	120-150	150-180	180-210	210-240
SBK	3495	234				8	58	162				
			0	5	5							
BHH	3483	1					1					
			4		3	1						
				1	1							
SAS	3518	52	0	0		52						

**MEASURED LENGTHS – SHARKS ONLY – 10 PER SPECIES**

Species	SBK										BHH	SAS								
Code	3495										3483	3518								
FL	88	89	123	94	129	135	146	115	151	88	75	45	60	55	30	42	38	56	59	31
Sex	M	F	F	M	F	M	F	F	M	M	F	F	F	F	F	M	M	F	F	F

**ESTIMATED FORK LENGTHS – NON-SHARKS**

Species	Code	Total # Kept	Total # Discard Live	Total # Discard Dead	000-030	030-060	060-090	090-120	120-150	150-180	180-210	210-240
SMK	3840	35	0	0		35						
KGM	1940	0	0	1		1						

## Southeast Fisheries Science Center Shark Drift Gillnet Fishery VMS Log

**OBS/TRIP#:** GNZ/001 **SET/HAUL:** 01

**VESSEL NAME:** Miss JaneDoe

VESSEL NUMBER: FL###

**LANDING DATE (mm/dd/yr):** 1/15/2010

## VMS Log

<b>TIME (XX.XX)</b>	<b>VESSEL STATUS</b>	<b>LATITUDE (XXXX.XX)</b>	<b>LONGITUDE (XXXX.XX)</b>
10.00	<b>Vessel Leaving Dock</b>	2708.917	8011.718
11.00	Steaming	2714.334	8007.758
12.00	Drifting	2721.568	8010.758
13.00	Untangling Gear	2722.421	8010.469
14.00	Cutting Gear	2721.886	8010.368
15.00	Steaming	2713.350	8008.225
16.00	<b>Vessel Returning to Port</b>	2708.917	8011.718